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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2018

[on the report of the First Committee (A/73/510 and A/73/510/Corr.1)]

73/71. Fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, 2020

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 64/52 of 2 December 2009 and 69/66 of 2 December 2014 by which it convened the second and third Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia in 2010 and 2015, respectively,

Recognizing the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories, as established by article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[1]

Recalling the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[2]

Welcoming the important contribution of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[3] Rarotonga,[4] Bangkok[5] and Pelindaba[6] and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[7] to the achievement of the objectives of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Recalling its resolution 71/43 of 5 December 2016 on Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.
[2] Resolution S-10/2.
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.
[4] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.
[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.
[6] A/50/426, annex.
[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

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Reaffirming the conviction that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the establishment and maintenance of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament,

Urging States that have not yet established nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to accelerate efforts in this direction, particularly in the Middle East, through agreements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and the principles adopted by the Disarmament Commission in 1999,[8]

Taking note of paragraph 232 of the Final Document of the Eighteenth Midterm Ministerial Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku from 3 to 6 April 2018, in which the Ministers stated their belief that those nuclear-weapon-free zones were positive steps and important measures towards strengthening global nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Recalling that States in regions in which there are nuclear-weapon-free zones are encouraged to ratify the respective treaties that establish said zones,

Recalling also that it is expected that the States to which the protocols to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones are open for signature ratify them and constructively consult and cooperate to bring about the entry into force of the protocols,

Noting that, among other aspects, those protocols include the necessary security guarantees for the States belonging to nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Recognizing the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first, second and third Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Mexico City from 26 to 28 April 2005 and in New York on 30 April 2010 and 24 April 2015, respectively, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives,

1. *Decides* to convene the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia as a one-day conference at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 24 April 2020;

2. *Invites* all States Members and observer States of the United Nations that are States parties or signatories to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia to participate in the Conference;

3. *Invites* all States parties and signatories to the protocols to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones to participate in the capacity of observers;

4. *Encourages* all the other States Members and observer States of the United Nations to participate in the capacity of observers;

5. *Decides* that the objective of the Conference will be to consider ways and means to enhance consultations and cooperation among nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, the treaty agencies and interested States, with the purpose of promoting coordination and convergence in the implementation of the provisions of the treaties and in strengthening the regime of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I, sect. C.

6. *Urges* the States parties and signatories to treaties that have established nuclear-weapon-free zones to develop activities of cooperation and coordination in order to promote their common objectives in the framework of the Conference;

7. *Welcomes* the offer by Mongolia to act as coordinator of the fourth Conference and to conduct preparatory meetings and informal consultations, including with relevant regional organizations, as may be necessary to prepare for the Conference and its rules of procedure and draft outcome document, beginning in early 2019;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the support necessary to convene the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia and to transmit the report of the fourth Conference to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission.

45th plenary meeting
5 December 2018